

# Wabash Plain Dealer

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WEDNESDAY  
DECEMBER 4, 2019

## Pulse of Wabash

### Wabash Plain Dealer's new website now available

Check out our new website at [www.wabashplaindealer.com](http://www.wabashplaindealer.com) and let us know what you think. Stories older than a few weeks are not yet available but will be soon. If you had an account on our previous site, you will need to create a new account. If you registered with the same email address we will be able to locate your previous subscription as well. Once registered, you can also verify your subscription. Please contact web support@wabashplaindealer.com with any questions. Thank you!

### Wabash Plain Dealer's new office now open

The Wabash Plain Dealer's new office is now open on the second floor at 99 W. Canal St.

### University Bands Concert set for Dec. 4

The University Bands Concert will take place at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 4 in the Assembly Room at Timbercrest Senior Living Community, 2201 East St., North Manchester. Tickets are \$5 general admission; free for MU students, faculty and staff.

### Manchester professor talks about how she is living her 'Wild and Precious Life'

Professor Heather Schilling, chair and director of teacher education at Manchester University, will speak about staying true to the University Mission Statement in "Living this one 'Wild and Precious Life'" at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5 in Cordier Auditorium.

### Woman's Clubhouse plans evening Christmas dinner

Don't forget the Christmas evening dinner Thursday, Dec. 5. It is the annual holiday fundraiser with a very special dinner and entertainment. The house will be decorated in an angel theme this year. Contact Carol McDonald by phone at 260-563-2331 or Mary Delauter at 260-563-6613 for more information.

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## Jury trial dates set in rape case

**Mason R. Perry, 19, Roann, faces two felony counts**

BY ROB BURGESS

rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com

A jury trial has been scheduled next year for Mason R. Perry, 19, Roann, who currently faces two felony counts of rape.

The first count is for rape when compelled by force or imminent threat of force, and the second is for sexual misconduct with a minor.

In an Oct. 29 probable cause affidavit, the alleged incident was first brought to law enforcement's attention by a school resource officer. Mack said the assistant principal had reported an email on a school account

contained the word "raped," which is automatically flagged by the system.

"I am afraid of being raped ... again," stated the email, in part.

The alleged incident occurred Sept. 27 according to an interview with the victim and their mother. The victim told their friends they had initially been afraid to tell their mother.

The victim told law enforcement Perry had pulled them into a bedroom, took most of their clothes off and held his hand over their mouth during the assault.

According to a separate probable cause affidavit, Perry was located at a friend's house Oct. 27 and interviewed shortly after.

After the interview, Perry wrote his statement in

which he attempted to shift the blame for the incident.

"I tried to push (them) away, but (they) wouldn't stop," he wrote.

The pretrial conference has been set for 1 p.m. Feb. 10, 2020 before Wabash County Circuit Court Judge Robert R. McCallen. The jury trial has been set for 8:30 a.m. March 10 and 11, 2020.

## Stretching your horizons

Kids Yoga classes available Mondays and Fridays at the NMPL

BY ROB BURGESS

rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com

If the sounds of "Baby Shark" over the speaker didn't tip visitors off that a yoga class was scheduled Monday morning at the North Manchester Public Library (NMPL), then the mats spread across the floor might have.

"A lot of Kids Yoga is just holding the babies," said Leighanne Fitzpatrick, yoga instructor, sitting in lotus position with her daughter, Eliza Fitzpatrick, 2, in her lap. "Sometimes we chase each other around the room."

Kids Yoga is designed with the brain and body development of children in mind, according to the NMPL program calendar.

"Kids will enjoy learning yoga and mindfulness through games, activities, songs and movement while learning important social and emotional skills," it stated.

Upcoming scheduled Kids Yoga sessions include 10 a.m. Mondays, Dec. 9 and 16; and 10 a.m. Fridays, Dec. 6 and 13.

Fitzpatrick has a studio in North Manchester at the Town Life Center called NoMa Yoga and has been teaching since August. She said the classes at the NMPL started at the beginning of November.

"It's their first experience with yoga usually," she said. "Their bodies aren't developed to doing adult yoga. We hold poses a lot shorter and we play a lot of games. It's a lot different than adult yoga."

In addition to Kids Yoga, Fitzpatrick also teaches Welcome to Yoga for those ages 13 and older.

"Each week we will explore a new yoga posture that will build strength and stamina, as well as calm the mind and increase balance," stated the calendar. "This



PHOTO BY ROB BURGESS / Plain Dealer

**POSE:** Leighanne Fitzpatrick, yoga instructor, sitting in lotus position with her daughter, Eliza Fitzpatrick, 2, in her lap Monday at the North Manchester Public Library (NMPL).

class will encourage gentle movements, mindful breathing and deep relaxation. Welcome to Yoga will build the skills and confidence needed to create a home practice or

attend any basic yoga class. Yoga is for everybody and everyone is welcome."

Upcoming scheduled Welcome to Yoga sessions include 2 p.m. Wednesdays,

Dec. 4, 11 and 18.

"I highly encourage the adults to do it too because if they see mom or dad doing it, they're more likely to do it, too," said Fitzpatrick.

## Need for blood doesn't stop for holidays

### STAFF REPORT

Between Thanksgiving and Christmas, more than 1 million units of blood could be transfused in the United States, according to a press release.

Individuals are urged to give a life-saving gift this holiday season by making an appointment to donate blood or platelets and help the American Red Cross ensure a sufficient supply

chester Church of the Brethren, 1306 Beckley St., North Manchester.

■ 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17, at the First United Methodist Church, 110 N. Cass St.

■ 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 27, at Parkview Wabash Hospital, 10 John Kissinger Drive.

Make an appointment

now by downloading the free Red Cross Blood

Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 800-RED-CROSS (800-733-2767) or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device.

In thanks for helping meet the urgent need, those who come to give blood or platelets now through Wednesday, Dec. 18 will receive a \$5 Amazon.com Gift Card via email, courtesy of Suburban Propane.

Keep a clean machine. Use security software to protect against malware that may steal data and viruses that may damage files. Set it to update automatically, so your device always has the latest security defenses.

Use strong and unique passwords. Be sure to use different passwords for each account and use a password manager if necessary. Experts suggest a minimum of 10 characters.

Use multi-factor authentication. If it is offered, set up your multi-factor authentication for accounts. This means that users may need a security code, usually sent as a text to a mobile phone, in addition to user names and passwords.

Encrypt and password-protect sensitive data. If keeping financial records, tax returns or any personally identifiable information on computers, encrypt this data and use a strong password.

To learn more about how to prevent identity theft, visit IDOR's website at [www.dor.in.gov](http://www.dor.in.gov) and click on "Stop ID theft" on the menu.

## Social Security offices to expand Wednesday hours

**Agency to hire 1,100 direct service employees**

### STAFF REPORT

Starting Jan. 8, 2020, Social Security offices nationwide will be open to the public on Wednesday afternoons, according to a press release

from Andrew Saul, commissioner of Social Security.

This change restores Wednesday public service hours that were last in place in late 2012.

The nearest Social Security offices to Wabash County include:

■ 117 S. Scatterfield Road, Anderson.

■ 600 N. Walnut St.,

Muncie.

■ 353 W. Alto Road, Kokomo.

■ 844 N. Miller Ave., Marion.

■ 2122 Lincolnway Court, Fort Wayne.

Currently, a field office is generally open to the public from 9 a.m. to noon Wednesdays. Beginning on Jan. 8, 2020, offices will remain

open until 4 p.m. Wednesdays, with typical field office hours from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

### Hiring front line employees

Saul also announced that

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# Gun background checks are on pace to break record in 2019

BY LISA MARIE PANE  
Associated Press

Background checks on gun purchases in the U.S. are climbing toward a record high this year, reflecting what the industry says is a rush by people to buy weapons in reaction to the Democratic presidential candidates' calls for tighter restrictions.

By the end of November, more than 25.4 million background checks – generally seen as a strong indicator of gun sales – had been conducted by the FBI, putting 2019 on pace to break the record of 27.5 million set in 2016, the last full year President Barack Obama was in the White House.

On Black Friday alone, the FBI ran 202,465 checks – one every 4.85 seconds.

Some analysts question how accurately the background check figures translate into gun sales, since some states run checks on applications for concealed-carry permits, too, and some purchases involve multiple firearms. But the numbers remain the most reliable method of tracking the industry.

In the years since Presi-

dent Donald Trump took office, the industry has struggled through what has been referred to as the Trump Slump, a falloff in sales that reflected little worry among gun owners about gun control efforts.

But with the 2020 presidential election less than a year out and virtually every Democratic candidate offering proposals to restrict access to firearms, fears appear to be driving up sales again.

"The Trump Slump is real, but the politics of guns has changed a little bit over the last year," said Adam Winkler, a professor at the University of California, Los Angeles, School of Law and an expert on gun rights and politics.

"As we're coming up upon another presidential election, Donald Trump is vulnerable, and the Democratic presidential contenders are falling all over themselves to propose more aggressive gun reforms than their opponents."

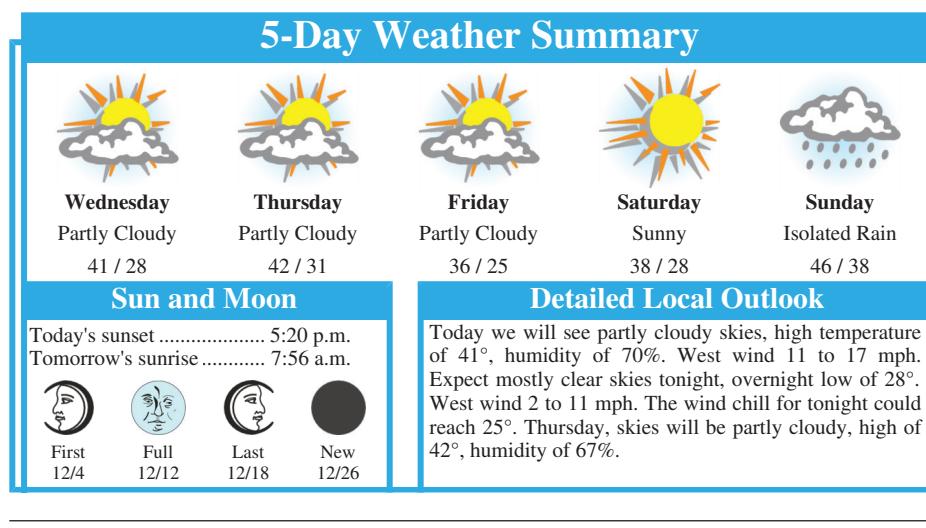
Trump has been viewed as one of the most gun-friendly presidents in modern history and has boasted of strong support from the National Rifle Association. He has addressed every one of its

annual conventions since the 2016 campaign, and the powerful gun lobby pumped about \$30 million into efforts to elect him.

Still, hopes of expanded gun rights under Trump's watch haven't materialized. Legislation that would make it easier to buy silencers stalled in Congress. In addition, Trump pushed through a ban on bump stocks, which allow semiautomatic rifles to mimic machine-gun fire. The gunman who killed 58 people in Las Vegas in 2017 in the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history used such a device.

The industry has been going through one of its toughest periods, with some gunmakers, such as Remington Arms, filing for bankruptcy. More recently, Smith & Wesson's parent company, American Outdoor Brands, announced plans to spin off its firearms unit, and Colt said it would suspend production of AR-15 rifles.

Amid some high-profile mass shootings in recent years, especially the Parkland school attack in Florida that left 17 people dead, gun control advocates have gained some momentum.



## Memory-boosting pills have no real benefit

**DEAR DOCTOR:** What's with all the ads for brain-enhancing products? Prevagen is one that claims it's been clinically proven to help, but my family

doctor says that it hasn't. Who's right? Do these products actually help with memory issues?

**DEAR READER:**

More than one-third of the United

States population is now aged 50 and older, a time of life when people start noticing changes to memory and the ability to learn. With each momentary lapse – fumbling for a word or forgetting a name – people are reminded of their aging brains. It's not surprising that a multibillion-dollar industry in brain health supplements has sprung up.

These products promise not only to preserve and enhance memory, but to sharpen focus, boost attention spans, lift moods and increase creativity. Supplements marketed as brain boosters typically include omega-3 fatty acids, certain B vitamins, vitamin E, ginseng and ginkgo biloba extract. However, despite decades of study into whether these substances actually work to preserve or enhance brain health and functioning, the research remains inconclusive.

When it comes to Prevagen, a memory supplement derived from jellyfish, the parent company's advertising claims led the Federal Trade Commission to charge it with fraud in early 2017. That legal battle is ongoing. Meanwhile, since the product is marketed as a supplement, it doesn't have to undergo Food and Drug Administration testing for safety or review for efficacy. It's also free from a range of FDA scrutiny and oversight.

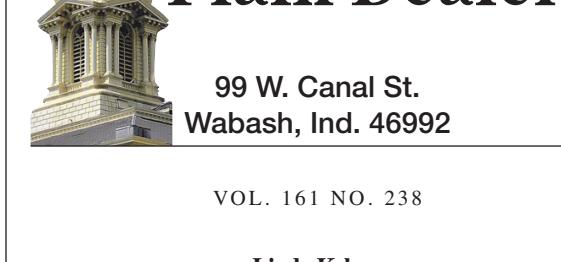
You're correct that the company's marketing cites positive results from a clinical study. But critics point out that these claims arise from selective use of data drawn from a single study, which was carried out in-house by the parent company of the product. In that study, the product and a placebo were found to be equally effective.

Until the day that science develops a real brain pill, we advise our patients to pre-

serve their cognitive health build new ones. With just the old-fashioned way. That is, eat right, control blood pressure, get enough sleep and exercise regularly. A diet that focuses on fresh fruits and vegetables, lean meat, fish, whole grains, legumes and healthful fats has been shown to reduce the risk of chronic disease, including heart disease. That's important because heart disease, as well as uncontrolled high blood pressure, have been linked to cognitive impairment later in life.

Research has also repeatedly drawn a connection between regular exercise and cognition. Not only does a mix of aerobic exercise, weight training and stretching improve strength, balance, endurance and mood, it has been shown to help the brain maintain existing neural connections, and to

Eve Glazier, M.D., MBA, is an internist and associate professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Elizabeth Ko, M.D., is an internist and assistant professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Send your questions to askthe doctors@mednet.ucla.edu, or write: Ask the Doctors, c/o UCLA Health Sciences Media Relations, 10880 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1450, Los Angeles, CA, 90024. Owing to the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.



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# Obituaries

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## Court sides with Congress in battle for Trump's bank records

BY LARRY NEUMEISTER

Associated Press

NEW YORK — A federal appeals court in New York handed President Donald Trump another legal defeat, ruling Tuesday that Congress can see his banking records for investigations into possible foreign influence in U.S. politics or other misdeeds.

Judge Debra Ann Livingston said in a partial dissent that the lower court should take a longer look at the "serious questions" raised by the case and give the parties time to negotiate.

Jay Sekulow, Trump's personal lawyer, said in a statement that an appeal to the Supreme Court was under consideration.

President, though the court said Trump did deserve some privacy protections and outlined procedures for protecting some sensitive personal information in the documents from public disclosure. It also gave Trump a limited chance to object to disclosure of certain documents.

Ramos, who had said Trump and his company were unlikely to succeed in proving that the subpoenas were unlawful and unconstitutional. The 2nd Circuit panel said three of his children had not shown a likelihood of success on any of their claims and had not identified a single factual issue to take to trial or a single witness or document that might add substance to their claims at trial.

Lawyers for the House committees, both of which are controlled by Democrats, say they need access to documents from the banks to investigate possible "foreign influence in the U.S. political process" and possible money laundering from abroad.

In a decision written by Circuit Judge Jon O. Newman, the appeals court said that while Trump and his children might suffer a loss of privacy if the documents were disclosed to Congress,

the records had to do with their business ventures, not intimate personal details.

"The Committees' interests in pursuing their constitutional legislative function is a far more significant public interest than whatever public interest inheres in avoiding the risk of a Chief Executive's distraction arising from disclosure of documents reflecting his private financial transactions," the decision said.

Deutsche Bank has lent Trump's real estate company millions of dollars over the years.

The court noted that the president had not disputed that the bank loaned him at least \$130 million when no other bank would do so.

"That unusual circumstance adequately supports requests for information to determine whether proper banking procedures have been followed," the decision said.

## Workers fired from Google plan federal labor complaint

BY RACHEL LERMAN

AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — Four workers fired from Google last week are planning to file a federal labor complaint against the company, claiming it unfairly retaliated against them for organizing workers around social causes.

The former employees said Tuesday they are preparing to file unfair labor practice charges with the National Labor Relations Board this week. All four were fired Nov. 25 for what Google said were violations of its data security policy.

Company officials wrote in a memo — without confirming the employees' names — that the four were "searching for, accessing, and distributing business information outside the scope of their jobs."

But the four workers — Laurence Berland, Sophie Waldman, Rebecca Rivers and Paul Duke — say they believe they did not violate company policies and claim that Google is using the alleged violations as an excuse to terminate them for labor activity.

"This is an expression of Google's management power," Duke said. "They are scared of worker power."

Google disputes that they fired the employees for organizing activity.

"No one has been dismissed for raising concerns or debating the company's activities," the company said in a statement.

Google employees are known for being some of the most outspoken across the tech industry. Thousands of employees walked out of work last year to protest the company's handling of sexual misconduct claims, in what became known as the Google Walkout. Since then, employees have petitioned for better benefits for contract workers, successfully argued for the end of mandatory arbitration and have opposed Google's involvement in some government projects.

The company has also been known for an open, collaborative work culture since its early days, one that employee activists say is now getting closed off.

CEO Sundar Pichai's weekly question-and-answer sessions with employees became monthly meetings.

Google also updated its community guidelines to tell employees to avoid "disrupting the workday" to debate politics or other topics.

Some workers complain both moves were meant to discourage open speech and crack down on employee pushback.

Waldman and Duke helped create a petition ear-

lier this year that called for Google to refrain from bidding on a cloud computing contract with U.S. Customs and Border Patrol. Nearly 1,500 employees signed the petition, which said CBP had "engaged in human rights abuses" at the southern border and that Google should not work with the agency.

Rivers and Berland also helped spread the petition, and Berland has been involved in organizing other campaigns at the company, including those involving LGBTQ rights.

All four say they were questioned by Google officials in the past few months for sharing or accessing internal documents. Two say they were placed on administrative leave last month.

The company said it found one worker set up notifications to be alerted about other employees' calendar changes, which made those employees feel unsafe. It said screenshots of their calendars with their names were shared externally.

"We have always taken information security very seriously, and will not tolerate efforts to intimidate Googlers or undermine their work, nor actions that lead to the leak of sensitive business or customer information," read the memo sent by Chris Rackow,

Royal Hansen and Heather Adkins from the company's security and investigations team.

The employees said any documents they viewed and shared were already accessible by Google workers, and they only shared them internally. They said others later shared them outside the company.

The four fired workers said they received no severance payments. They are working with lawyers and have not yet determined the details of the NLRB complaint, but said it will address retaliation concerns and will likely take issue broadly with Google's recent policy changes and alleged crackdowns against employee organizing.

Google reached a separate settlement with the NLRB in September over employees' ability to speak out about workplace issues.

Google agreed to post notices to remind employees of their rights, including the ability to talk to each other about workplace conditions and push for changes such as raises.

The situation of the four workers has led to additional protest. A few hundred people attended a rally at Google's San Francisco office in November to call for Rivers' and Berland's reinstatement.

## Ex-chief says he didn't intentionally 'deceive' anyone

BY SOPHIA TAREEN

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Ousted Chicago Police Superintendent Eddie Johnson said Tuesday that he didn't "intentionally mislead or deceive" anyone about the mid-October night he was found sleeping behind the wheel of his SUV.

Johnson, 59, released a statement through his attorney a day after Mayor Lori Lightfoot fired him for "ethical lapses," just weeks before he was set to retire. She said an inspector general's report, which hasn't been released publicly, revealed he misled her and the public about the circumstances of that evening and showed "flawed decision-making."

"One thing I want everyone to know is this: I did not intentionally mislead or deceive the Mayor or the people of Chicago," Johnson said in the statement. "I acknowledge that I made

a poor decision and had a lapse of judgment on the night of October 16. That was a mistake and I know that."

Two Chicago newspapers published reports Monday night that seem to contradict Johnson's public account in which he blamed an issue with his medication, saying he felt lightheaded while driving home and fell asleep after pulling over. Lightfoot said he'd told her he had "a couple of drinks with dinner."

But the Chicago Sun-Times reported he was drinking for hours with a female member of his security detail at a downtown restaurant. The Chicago Tribune reported that the inspector general's investigation includes video showing Johnson drinking for hours with a woman at a Chicago Board of Trade building restaurant.

Johnson said he has "no

interest in fighting a battle" for his reputation after three decades with the police department.

"Reputations are not built in a day and not damaged in a day either," he said. "I will simply rely on the reputation for integrity that I think I have earned during my long career, with the faith that we should all be judged by the entirety of our lives and not on what happened on our worst days."

Messages left Tuesday with city and police spokesmen weren't immediately returned. Johnson's attorney, Tom Needham, said Tuesday that the former police chief would not have comments beyond his statement.

Lightfoot fiercely criticized Johnson Monday for a series of "intolerable" actions, at a City Hall news conference, including lying to her and public about that

evening. She said an inspector general's report, which includes video evidence, showed a different account. She declined to discuss it.

"While at some point, the inspector general's report may become public and those details may be revealed, I don't feel like it is appropriate or fair to Mr. Johnson's wife or children to do so at this time," Lightfoot said.

Johnson, who during his term as chief has been hospitalized for a blood clot and a kidney transplant, was found in his car by officers early Oct. 17. The officers did not conduct any sobriety tests and let their boss drive home. It was unclear if they would be disciplined. The Tribune reports that Johnson partially rolled down the window on his police vehicle, showed his superintendent's badge and drove away.

If they already receive Social Security benefits, they can start or change direct deposit online, and if they need proof of their benefits, they can print or download a current Benefit Verification Letter from their account.

People not yet receiving benefits can use their online account to get a personalized Social Security Statement, which provides earnings history information as well as estimates of future benefits. Currently, residents in 40 states and Washington, D.C. may request a replacement Social Security card online if they meet certain requirements. The portal also includes a retirement calculator and links to information about other online services, such as applications for retirement, disability and Medicare benefits.

Many Social Security services are also available by calling 800-772-1213. People who are deaf or hard of hearing may call Social Security's TTY number, 800-325-0778.

## HOURS

Continued from A1

the agency is hiring 1,100 front line employees to provide service on the agency's National 800 Number and in its processing centers.

The agency is currently bringing onboard 100 new processing center employees and approximately 500 new teleservice representatives for the 800 number. An additional 500 hires for the 800 Number will occur later in 2020.

### Online and telephone service

Most Social Security services do not require the public to take time to visit an office. People may create a my Social Security account, a personalized online service, at [www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount).

Through their personal my Social Security account, people can check personal information and conduct business with Social Secu-

Check us out online at

[www.wabashplaindealer.com](http://www.wabashplaindealer.com)

## speak up

### How to contact your legislators:

**U.S. Sen. Todd Young, R-Ind.**  
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B85 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510 202-224-4814 <http://braun.senate.gov/>

**U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski R-District 2**  
419 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515 202-225-3915

**State Sen. Andy Zay, R-District 17**  
Indiana Senate 200 W. Washington St. Indianapolis, IN 46204 1-800-382-9467 Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov

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The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 123 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 123 W. Canal St. The office is open 9:11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to news@wabashplaindealer.com with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.

## inspiration corner

### Daily scripture

Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

James 1:19-20

## What do you think?

We want to hear your opinions, too. Here's how to get us your letters to the editor:

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## The case for impeachment over censure

One president held up nearly \$400 million in American military aid to a vulnerable ally, Ukraine. This endangered the security of Ukraine, which worries every waking hour about being overrun by Russia, and, by extension, endangered the security of the United States. The president did this to compel Ukraine to announce an investigation into Joe Biden, who might be his Democratic opponent for re-election next November. He also wanted Ukraine to announce an investigation into a baseless claim that Ukraine had interfered, on behalf of Hillary Clinton, in the 2016 presidential election. He released the military aid only when he feared being caught.

This president then compounded his offenses. He made every effort, which continue to this day, to block an investigation into his misconduct. He has ordered current and former aides not to testify before Congress. He has attempted to trash the reputations of those who have testified, including war heroes and career diplomats with impeccable records. He has ordered that documents be kept from Congress. And he has lied constantly about what he did and why he did it, even as the real facts have been revealed.

The other president lied under oath

about having sex with an intern. Which of these two presidents, readers, committed the greater offense?

In 1998, we argued that President Clinton should be censured but not impeached. We wrote that Clinton's transgressions were "petty, personal crimes" that brought "disgrace and dishonor on him," but they were not "high crimes" of the kind envisioned by our nation's Founding Fathers.

That argument doesn't fly this time. If extorting an ally to gain an advantage in the 2020 election doesn't rise to the level of impeachable conduct, what does? If playing games with our nation's global security to score personal political favors does not amount to "treason, bribery or other high crimes and misdemeanors," what else did the writers of the Constitution have in mind?

Should we all just get over it and hope for the best in the next election? Trump almost certainly will be impeached in the House, where Democrats are in control, and found not guilty in the Senate, where Republicans are in control, allowing him to claim vindication.

At first glance, this implies a kind of equivalency in the arguments for and against Trump, but it's a false equivalency. The case for impeachment is

solid. The case in defense of Trump's behavior is miserably weak. It relies not on facts but on spinelessness.

Trump knows he can do anything to Republican members of the Senate. He's a star and they'll let him do it. He can grab them by the voters.

But even if, for the sake of argument, censure rather than impeachment might normally be appropriate and sufficient punishment, it would be pointless given this president. Censure is a form of shaming, but this president cannot be shamed. That would require an ability for honest self-appraisal.

Trump would turn censure on its head in his usual way – "I know you are but what am I" – and revel in the fact that he was not even impeached. He would misrepresent every factual finding and judgment and pick up where he never left off, un-chastised.

Censuring Trump now, rather than impeaching him, would be another gift.

The president compromised our nation's best interests for pure political self-profit, as baldly as a Chicago alderman holding up a zoning change for a bribe.

Trump has brought impeachment upon himself.

A version of this editorial was first published in the Chicago Sun-Times.

## 'Socialism': They don't know what they're saying

**By Eric Schansberg**

Economists Robert Lawson and Benjamin Powell have written "Socialism Sucks: Two Economists Drink Their Way Through the Unfree World" – a breezy book on a stale and lousy economic system. Its casual tone is rooted in their use of beer as a metaphor and a key prop to describe socialism in various countries.

Their punchline: Many people advocate socialism without knowing what it is. Socialism is when government owns all of the means of production rather than individuals. But few people really want that, including most self-styled socialists. Instead, most of them imagine "socialism" as a dog's breakfast of Leftist and Liberal policy proposals. They see it as a vague call to increase government activism, justice, fairness and, ironically, democracy.

So, if you're worried that so many people are advocating (real) socialism today, you can rest easy. They're not advocating the abolition of private property and political oppression. (Not many people understand capitalism either, but that's another story.) Their policy prescriptions might be troubling but thankfully few folks are really embracing socialism.

Lawson and Powell visit eight countries to describe various types of socialism. They start with Sweden as "Not Socialism." Contrary to popular opinion, the authors cite data from the "Freedom Index" to note that Sweden has a relatively free economy. They note its high taxes and expansive welfare state (with the resulting problems), but that doesn't make it a socialist economy.

Next is "Starving Socialism" in Venezuela. The authors note that American Leftists were praising this country a decade ago. Now, however, the country is a nightmare, with plummeting incomes and rampant inflation. While Venezuela might be a poster child for socialism, it's also Exhibit A for why socialism is inhumane.

Cuba is labeled "Subsistence Socialism." It's better than Venezuela. But the food is bland with so few available species. Government hotels are rundown; private Airbnb-style housing is much better. Havana is famous for its 1950s American cars but that's not nearly as glamorous as it sounds, with outrageous car prices and run-down rides. And there are no storefront signs. Even poor market economies have advertising, but in Cuba, there's little incentive to sell, since the state owns everything.

North Korea is "Dark Socialism" – named for the famous satellite photos that show how little light they have. Lawson and Powell have the same experience on the ground, as they look across the river from their hotel in China – into the utter darkness of a large North Korean city at night. We've seen a natural economic experiment over the 60 years in North and South Korea. If socialism is the experimental treatment, one can only recommend living in the control group.

China is "Fake Socialism" – with its big increases in capitalism and income over the past few decades. Russia and Ukraine are depicted as "Hungover Socialism" – better off since the fall of the USSR but still stuck with heavy doses of crony capitalism and statism. And Georgia is their example of the "New Capitalism" – a Soviet-bloc country that has many disadvantages but has embraced market reforms and is growing.

Throughout the book, the authors underline the importance of the "rule of law" for economic incentives and performance. They mention the history of mass murderers in Russian and Chinese 20th century socialist history. But they also bring repeated attention to the devastating correlations between reduced economic freedom, diminished civil liberties and social repression by government.

I was fortunate to visit Berlin with a friend before the Wall came down. East Berlin was the most impressive city in the Eastern Bloc. But compared to West Berlin, East Berlin was drab with little variety and a far-lower standard of living. We were walking around and my friend said, "This isn't so bad." I replied, "All you need to know is that they built a wall to keep these people in."

While socialism could work in theory, the data indicate that people will be worse off – economically and socially – with socialism. It can be hoped that Lawson and Powell's book will convince people to reject an economic system that has caused so much devastation and forgo government solutions that look promising but usually fail.

D. Eric Schansberg is professor of economics at Indiana University Southeast.



## The 'smartest' state? It's a matter of definition

When I was in high school, we all knew who the smart kids were. They were the ones who had the most answers, solved problems the quickest, scored the highest on tests.

I suspect nothing's changed. Go into any high school today, pick out any student at random to ask, and you'll discover who the smartest ones in that school are. You won't need a battery of state-mandated tests or psychologist-approved yardsticks.

It was, admittedly, a little easier in my day. Back then, our schools were "laned" so that students of roughly equivalent academic abilities had their classes together as a group.

Fort Wayne high schools had five lanes – x1, x2, y1, y2 and z. School could be a wonderful intellectual adventure for those in the x lanes – we were the best and brightest and were told so all the time. We never stopped to consider how school must have seemed for those in the z lane who constantly got the message they were the dumbest and slowest.

Of course, I know now. Have you ever heard that question about whether it's better to have the worst house in the best neighborhood or the best house in the worst neighborhood? Just think about whether you'd rather be the worst student in the top lane or the best student in the bottom lane.

I've thought a lot since high school about the kids we defined as the smartest and whether they really deserved that designation.

They were, I've come to understand, those for whom school was the easiest. They were in a closed, structured environment, clearly understood the rules of that environment, and followed those rules to achieve

success as defined by the standards of that environment. Is that really what it means to be smart?

When I think of all the smart people in history I wish I could have a conversation with, two names among the top are Hedy Lamarr and Ben Franklin.

Lamarr was a huge Hollywood star of the 1940s, routinely called the most glamorous woman in the world – she was the Angelina Jolie of her day, and then some. That brought with it the sleazy attentions of predatory moguls in a culture of sexism so toxic we can barely imagine it today.

Yet, she used her creative ability to invent a frequency hopping technology, a way of jumping around on radio frequencies that could keep the enemy from interfering with a ship's torpedoes. That invention led to the Wi-Fi, GPS and Bluetooth that are now propelling the digital age.

Franklin was easily the most debauched of America's Founding Fathers. A hard drinker, womanizer, vain, bawdy, vulgar purveyor of life's excesses. As a joke, he once wrote an essay on how to improve the odor of human flatulence.

Yet, he was an inventor without equal, eloquent writer, brilliant statesman. He helped write both the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution. Even among the members of the Constitutional Convention, arguably the greatest collection of intellectuals ever gathered in one place, he stood out as a genius.

That's what being smart is: If, despite all the obstacles in your path, whether put there by society's demands or your own character flaws, you still achieve the best you are capable of.

I started thinking about all this when I encountered another silly article about the Hoosier state's pitiful showing in one of those artificial categories lame websites trot out pe-

riodically to rank states in.

"Indiana ranks toward bottom of 'smartest states' study," the headline said.

We came in at No. 38 out of 51 (Washington, D.C., was included), so best forget those plans for a "My state is smarter than your state" bumper sticker. I feel even more chagrined that my birth state of Kentucky fared worse – in the bottom 10.

But perhaps I should try to think of myself as the smartest citizen in the dumbest states.

We lane everything these days, put every person, place and thing into boxes with their respective counterparts and sort them and rank them and reduce them to their simplest components.

But they are closed environments. The "best" within those environments means something only by the rules set for them.

This particular smart list was created by considering the number of people with college degrees, the percentages of high school graduates and student scores on the SAT and ACT. Basically, a state's smarts-level is determined by education levels.

A bit narrow, especially considering the state of education in America today.

The smartest state by the selected criteria? New Jersey, which also usually tops the list of states with the highest taxes. If such lists were kept, the state would undoubtedly be ranked first in corruption as well.

We can only conclude that the smartest state is being run by the dumbest people in the state. Certainly not by any Hedy Lamarrs or Ben Franklins who might still be trapped there.

Leo Morris, columnist for The Indiana Policy Review, is winner of the Hoosier Press Association's award for Best Editorial Writer. Morris, as opinion editor of the Fort Wayne News-Sentinel, was named a finalist in editorial writing by the Pulitzer Prize committee. Contact him at leoeditz@yahoo.com.

D. Eric Schansberg is professor of economics at Indiana University Southeast.

## Julie Garber receives Early Learning Champion Award

Early Learning Summit for Economic Development took place Nov. 7

### STAFF REPORT

Grow Wabash County announced Julie Garber, program director for the Community Foundation of Wabash County, received the Indiana Early Learning Champion Award during the Early Learning Summit for Economic Development on Thursday, Nov. 7, according to a press release.

"I'm very grateful for the recognition of our early education innovations in Wabash County and I gladly share this prize with the members of our creative coalition," stated Garber.

Garber has been one of many members of the Wabash County Early Childhood Coalition, which was formed to address the lack of access to high-quality early childhood education opportunities for Wabash

County families.

"Julie is a valued leader in our community and her work through the Community Foundation of Wabash County to support the establishment and growth of high-quality opportunities in early childhood education are vital to the long-term success of Wabash County," stated Keith Gillenwater, president and CEO of Grow Wabash

County. "As we look to grow our population, it is imperative we have high-quality childcare spots available for current and new residents. The coalition has spent the past few years finding ways to bring more early education access to the working families of Wabash County who are often left to make difficult decisions between working and finding adequate care for their children."

Those efforts include helping to launch First Five Wabash County to create a strategic education plan for young kids as well as connecting educational facilities such as the Manchester Early Learning Center with grant money and/or materials to better serve Wabash County.

"Young parents face enormous financial pressures," Garber stated. "They are paying for childcare, saving for their children's college expenses, paying off their own education debts, buying houses and saving for retirement at the very time in their lives they are making the least money. I am committed to finding ways as a whole community to address these issues for families because the success of the small child is success for us all."

The annual summit during which Garber received the Early Learning Champion Award was a convergence of stakeholders not only from

the world of education but from all sorts of industries and businesses. The goal of the summit was to position early childhood education as less of an isolated issue, but one that impacts everyone in a community, especially employers. More information about the summit and how to get involved with its missions can be found at [www.indianaearlylearningsummit.org](http://www.indianaearlylearningsummit.org).

"Every investment we make in children will pay off in greater homeownership, more taxpaying, a more skilled workforce and more jobs as children become adults," stated Garber. "While we'd like to think that we can wait until they're older to invest, the best time is now to support our youngest citizens and to get the best payoff. Their minds are exploding with growth that won't happen again. The window to act is small but the results of early education are great."

## Dictionary.com chooses 'existential' as word of the year

BY LEANNE ITALIE

AP Entertainment Writer

NEW YORK — Climate change, gun violence, the very nature of democracy and an angst-filled movie star called Forky helped propel "existential" to Dictionary.com's word of the year.

The choice reflects months of high-stakes threats and crises, real and pondered, across the news, the world and throughout 2019.

"In our data, it speaks to this sense of grappling with our survival, both literally and figuratively, that defined so much of the discourse," said John Kelly, senior research editor for the site, ahead of Monday's announcement.

The word earned top of mind awareness in sustained searches at Dictionary.com in the aftermath of wildfires and Hurricane Dorian, and mass shootings in Christchurch, New Zealand, and El Paso, Texas. It also reared itself in presidential politics and pop culture, including Forky the white plastic spork who was the breakout star of "Toy Story 4."

The soiled utensil is convinced his destiny is in the trash, until he embraces his purpose as a treasured toy of kindergartener Bonnie.

"Forky underscores how this sense of grappling can also inspire us to ask big questions about who we are, about our purpose," Kelly told The Associated Press.

Oxford Dictionaries picked "climate emergency" as its word of the year, noting usage evidence that reflects the "ethos, mood,

or preoccupations of the passing year," the company said in a statement.

Dictionary.com crunches lookup and other data to decide which word to anoint each year. The site has been picking a word of the year since 2010.

Among search spikes for "existential" were those that occurred after both Democratic presidential contender Bernie Sanders and 16-year-old climate activist Greta Thunberg characterized climate change as an "existential" crisis, Kelly said.

Another spike occurred when former Vice President Joe Biden, also vying for the Democratic presidential nod, painted President Donald Trump as an "existential threat" to decency.

The word dates to 1685, deriving from Late Latin's "existentialis." Dictionary.com defines existential as "of or relating to existence" and "of, relating to, or characteristic of philosophical existentialism; concerned with the nature of human existence as determined by the individual's freely made choices."

Enter Martin Heidegger, Karl Jaspers, Gabriel Marcel and Jean-Paul Sartre, thinkers who molded and embraced existentialism, among other movements.

Climate, guns and the impeachment crisis for Donald Trump were just a few areas that seemed to frame debate in existential terms. So did the Hong Kong protests, the Notre Dame fire, tensions between the United States and China, and Big Tech's privacy and fake news problems.

## Taylor Coffman named Coca-Cola Scholars Program semifinalist

WHS senior chosen for next level in scholarship

### STAFF REPORT

Taylor Coffman, a senior at Wabash High School (WHS), has been named a semifinalist for the 2020 class of the Coca-Cola Scholars Program.

This year, 1,928 high school seniors were selected as Semifinalists from a pool of 93,075 submitted applications from across the country based on their academic excellence, leadership and service demonstrated in school and community activities.

The Semifinalists are in the running for 150 college scholarships worth \$20,000.

"A joint effort of Coca-Cola bottlers across the country and The Coca-Cola Company, the Coca-Cola Scholars Program is the largest corporate-sponsored, achievement-based scholarship program in the United States," stated the release. "With the addition of the 2020 class,

the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation will have provided more than 6,300 Coke Scholars nationwide with over \$72 million in scholarships over 32 years."

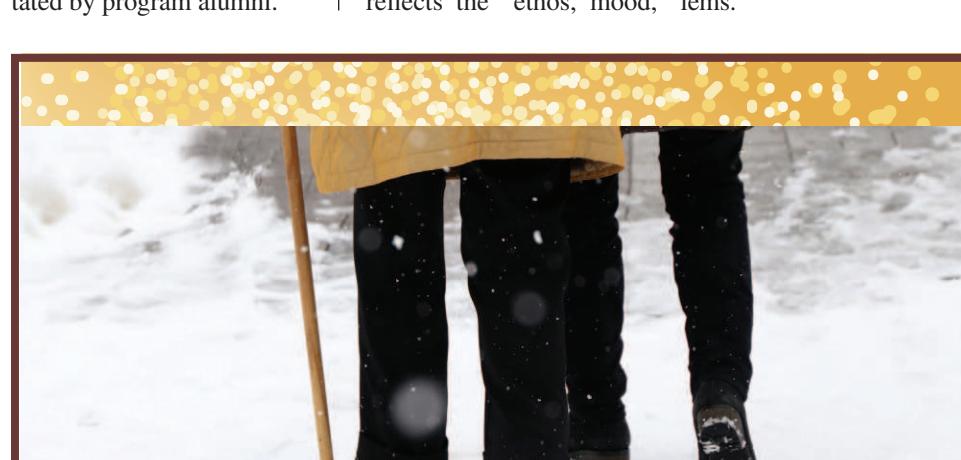
In addition to receiving college scholarships, those students selected as Coca-

Cola Scholars will be welcomed into a "vibrant and growing family of alumni that have become a powerful force for positive change in the world."

Through networking, collaborations and friendships, the group strives to make a greater impact together. Recent events and initiatives include the Coca-Cola Scholars Leadership Summit, a post-hurricane clean-up in Houston, and the fourth year of a coaching program that partners seasoned alumni with first-year Scholars as they transition to college.

Semifinalists are now asked to complete Phase 2 applications, which include

essays, recommendations, and transcripts. An independent selection committee will review the applications and select 250 Regional Finalists by the end of January to participate in online or in-person interviews. 150 Coca-Cola Scholars will be named in March and come to Atlanta in April for a celebratory banquet and Leadership Development Institute facilitated by program alumni.



The Farmer's Almanac is predicting record cold this winter.

— A —

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# Student, officer hurt in 2nd Wisconsin high school shooting

BY IVAN MORENO  
and GRETCHEN EHLKE  
Associated Press

OSHKOSH, Wis. — An armed student confronted a school resource officer at a Wisconsin high school Tuesday morning and both were wounded, police said, in the second such shooting at a school in the state in as many days.

The latest shooting happened at Oshkosh West High School just after 9 a.m., Oshkosh police spokeswoman Katherine Mann said at a news briefing. The student and the officer were taken to hospitals, but no one else was injured in the shooting, Mann said.

Authorities have not released any information about the nature of the injuries to the student and the officer.

"This is a big deal," Mann said. "We're not that big of a city and we know pretty much everyone in the city and we know this affects a lot of people in our community."

Police will not be releasing details of the type of weapon the student was carrying, and the Wisconsin Department of Justice Division of Criminal Investigation is handling the investigation, she said.

The school was locked down. Police said parents would be able to reunite with their children later at Perry Tipler Middle school. By late morning, parents were gathered

at the middle school, waiting for their children.

An Oshkosh West student identified only as Evelyn told WLUK-TV that she was in class when she heard screaming and her teacher walked out.

"And then, like, after two minutes she ran back into the classroom and she was like, 'Everybody needs to evacuate right now!' And then we all ran out of the class and then we saw everybody from our school running to across the street."

After reuniting with her mother at the nearby middle school, Evelyn said: "They told us they were going to tell us what was happening, but they never did."

A senior identified only as Josh told the Journal Sentinel that he heard gunshots.

"I was walking in the hall, and a teacher shoved me into a classroom, and we started barricading the doors, and we all huddled in the corner, and there were gunshots," he said.

The Rev. John Seelman, pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church across the street from the school, says he saw one person being transported from the school in a wheelchair who was taken away in an ambulance, and another who was carried out on a stretcher.

Stephanie Carlin, who is the mother of a sophomore and a senior at Oshkosh West and a school board member, told

The Associated Press that one of her sons texted her to say, "it was crazy," but that both of her sons were safe.

"As a parent, it's terrifying," Carlin said. It's a parent's "worst nightmare."

Carlin referred questions to school board president Barbara Herzog, who did not immediately respond to a call and email seeking comment.

Just before 11 a.m., school buses were lined up outside the school and streets were blocked off. Several squad cars, many of them with lights still flashing, were parked outside, with officers manning the barricades blocking the street.

Oshkosh West has about 1,700 students in grades 9-12.

Tuesday's shooting in Oshkosh, a city of about 67,000 people, was about 80 miles north of Monday's shooting in the Milwaukee suburb of Waukesha. A police officer responding to a situation at Waukesha South High School shot an armed male student in a classroom. Officials say that student pointed a handgun at officers. The 17-year-old boy was wounded and is in custody in stable condition.

No officers or other students were injured, Waukesha Police Chief Russell Jack said. Wisconsin Attorney General Josh Kaul, a Democrat, said the two shootings reinforced the need to identify troubled students and get

them the mental health services they need to prevent violence before it occurs. Kaul also renewed his call for the Republican-controlled Legislature to pass a universal gun background check bill and a "red flag" law that would empower judges to take guns from people determined to be a risk to themselves or others.

The state Justice Department's office of school safety was working with both schools in Oshkosh and Waukesha to provide them with any services they may need, Kaul said. He also said if other schools have safety upgrade needs, they should contact his agency.

"These are really tragic incidents but it's also true we have seen incidents where there has been mass tragedy," Kaul said. "I feel really sorry for our kids that they have to go to school in this environment."

School shootings have occasionally shone a spotlight on the response by guards and school resource officers. Armed school resource officers have rarely prevented a school shooting.

Last year, armed guards at three high-profile school shootings — Marshall County High School in Benton, Kentucky; Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida; and Santa Fe High School in Texas — were unable to stop the rampages.

## Domingo's accusers slam claims he never acted badly to women

BY JOCELYN GECKER  
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Two opera singers who accused Placido Domingo of sexual misconduct said Tuesday that it was disappointing and disturbing that the opera legend recently claimed he has always behaved like a gentleman and never acted improperly toward women.

Angela Turner Wilson and Patricia Wulf were among more than 20 women who accused Domingo of sexual harassment or inappropriate sexually charged behavior in two Associated Press reports this summer.

Their new statement came in response to comments Domingo made in two recent interviews with European publications, in which he disputed the allegations against him and said he never abused his power. He said he always behaved like a gentleman but that "gallant gestures are viewed differently nowadays."

"There is nothing 'chivalrous' or 'gallant' about groping a woman in the workplace, in any country or era," Wilson and Wulf said in the statement issued through their attorney, Debra Katz.

The Grammy Award-winning singer is one of the most celebrated and

powerful men in the opera world and regarded as one of the greatest opera singers of all time. The long-married, Spanish-born star also is a prolific conductor and longtime administrator, having served as the general director of both the Los Angeles Opera and Washington Opera.

Until recently, the 78-year-old had not spoken publicly about the allegations and had limited his reaction to statements from his lawyer and publicist. He had called the accusations "in many ways, simply incorrect."

Last week, Domingo gave an interview to Spanish online newspaper El Confidencial in which he again stopped short of flatly denying the women's allegations but insisted he had never behaved improperly. He added that Spaniards are by nature "warm, affectionate and loving."

"I have been gallant but always within the limits of gentlemanliness, respect and sensitivity," he said.

Domingo also spoke to Italian newspaper Corriere della Sera, denying he abused his power and saying casting decisions were not made by him but by "a team of four or five people."

He said that "very offensive things were said about me as a human being."

## California Rep. Hunter faces 5 years in corruption plea

BY JULIE WATSON  
Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — California Rep. Duncan Hunter gave up his year-long fight against federal corruption charges and pleaded guilty Tuesday to misusing his campaign funds, paving the way for the six-term Republican to step down.

Hunter changed his not guilty plea at a federal hear-

ing in San Diego on Tuesday in a dramatic reversal and faces five years in prison as part of a plea agreement.

He left the courthouse to jeers from protesters yelling "Lock him up." Hunter said outside court that he failed to properly monitor campaign funds.

For more than a year, Hunter had insisted that criminal charges against

him and his wife were the result of a conspiracy of the "deep state" meant to drive him from office in the Democrat-dominated state.

Hunter, an early supporter of President Donald Trump, said in a TV interview that aired Monday that he is prepared to go to jail. He has not said exactly when he will resign.

The change in plea marks

the second time this year a Republican congressman who was re-elected while indicted has later pleaded guilty to federal charges.

Hunter, 42, told San Diego TV station KUSI a trial would be tough on his three children.

His wife Margaret Hunter also was charged in the case and in June accepted a plea deal that called for her to

testify against her husband. The couple could have faced decades in prison before the plea deal. His wife faces up to five years in prison.

Federal prosecutors said the couple spent more than \$250,000 in campaign money for golf outings, family vacations to Italy and Hawaii, tequila shots and airline tickets for their pet rabbit.

Prosecutors also revealed Hunter spent some of the money on romantic relationships with lobbyists and congressional aides.

Hunter's departure will mark the end of a political dynasty in Southern California's most Republican district. He was elected in 2008 after his father represented the district for 28 years.

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## Area Calendar

Girls basketball - Southwood at Eastbrook, 7:30 p.m.; Wabash vs Alexandria, 7:30 p.m.

Wrestling - Southwood at Elwood, 6:30 p.m.

## Knights earn home win

At home against Madison-Grant on Monday, Southwood's girls' basketball picked up a 42-32 victory. The Knights outscored the Argylls 10-2 in the third quarter to power the way to the win. Ella Haupert had a team-high 12 points while Alaina Winer had 10.

## Devils fire Hynes, name Nasreddine interim coach

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — The New Jersey Devils have fired coach John Hynes.

General manager Ray Shero announced the move Tuesday, roughly 20 minutes before Hynes was to speak to the media before the Devils game against the Las Vegas Golden Knights at the Prudential Center.

Shero said assistant Alain Nasreddine will become the interim coach and Peter Horachek, a pro scout for the team, will join the coaching staff as an assistant.

Shero was expected to address the media before the game.

The Devils have a 9-13-4 record and are coming off embarrassing losses to the rival New York Rangers on Saturday and a disastrous 7-1 defeat on Monday night in Buffalo. They are in last place in the Metropolitan Division and have the second worst record in the Eastern Conference.

## Browns release defensive end Smith

CLEVELAND (AP) — The Cleveland Browns on Tuesday released defensive end Chris Smith, whose girlfriend was killed in a roadside accident earlier this season.

Smith spent the past two seasons with Cleveland. He did not play in Sunday's loss at Pittsburgh despite the Browns being short-handed on the defensive line with Myles Garrett out due to an indefinite suspension.

Smith's girlfriend, Petara Cordero, was struck and killed by a car on Sept. 11 while standing on the side of a highway after Smith's car had swerved and crashed.

## Submit your news

The Plain Dealer is accepting all news, varsity, junior varsity, middle school, elementary school and non-school affiliated recreational sports. Items may be:

E-mailed to sports@wabashplaindealer.com.

Called into 260-225-4523 after 11 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Please do not leave complete results on voice mail.

Mailed into Plain Dealer, 123 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46920.

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## HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL



FILE PHOTO

PASS: Northfield's Ainsley Dale makes a pass into the post during the Norse's game against Peru last week.

## Squires, Norse renew rivalry on hardwood

BY JACOB RUDE  
sports@wabashplaindealer.com

For the first time this season, Wabash County teams will fight it out with one another on the hardwood. It's also the first full week of the year with both boys' and girls' basketball on the slate.

### Girls' basketball

**Southwood (2-4) - at Eastbrook, Dec. 4, 7:30 p.m.; at Rochester, Dec. 7, 7:45 p.m.**

After opening the week with a win over Madison-Grant on Monday, Southwood will continue its season with trips to Eastbrook and Rochester on the week,

the latter of which being the Knights' Three Rivers Conference (TRC) opener.

The Panthers have played just three games on the year and are 1-2 with a loss to Northfield. Sophomore guard Johwen McKim leads Eastbrook, having scored 15 points in Eastbrook's loss to the Norse.

In Rochester, the Knights will meet a side that has alternated wins and losses from the start of the season and sit at 3-4 on the year.

Unlike Southwood, the Zebras have already opened TRC play, beating Peru before falling to Maconaquah in the next contest.

**Northfield (3-3) - vs. Maconaquah, Dec. 3, 7:45 p.m.; at Manchester, Dec. 7, 7:45 p.m.**

The Norse will open TRC play this week on Tuesday against the Braves before seeking revenge on the Squires on the weekend.

Each of the last two seasons, the Norse have dropped just one TRC contest with each defeat coming at the hands of the Squires. Northfield's last conference win over Manchester came on Dec. 3, 2016.

This season, the Norse have alternated wins and losses with the most recent outing a blowout win over

Peru, 65-44. The Squires, meanwhile, will have a week off to prepare for the Norse after falling to Oak Hill on Saturday.

Northfield and Manchester shared the TRC title last winter. This season, Northfield sports a Sagarin rating of 59.84, 17th in Class A, while Manchester's Sagarin rating of 49.28, 60th in Class 2A.

**Wabash (3-3) - vs. Alexandria, Dec. 4, 7:30 p.m.; vs. Tippecanoe Valley, Dec. 7, 7:45 p.m.**

The Apaches also open

See SQUIRES / Page B2

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL

## All-America Watch: Championship weekend's best matchups

BY RALPH D. RUSSO  
AP College Football Writer

Only the best of the best get to play this weekend in college football. Championship weekend crowns the winner of 10 Bowl Subdivision conferences and matches up some big-time players. A look at some of the potential All-Americans who will be matching up in major college football's biggest trophy games.

The AP All-America team presented by Regions Bank will be announced Dec. 16.

### American Athletic Conference

**No. 21 Cincinnati at No. 16 Memphis**

Ahmad Gardner, CB, Cincinnati vs. Antonio Gibson, WR, Memphis. Gardner is a freshman who has quickly developed into a lock-down corner. He has returned two of his three inter-

ceptions for touchdowns. Gibson is a versatile playmaker. The senior is the Tigers' second-leading receiver, averaging 20.8 yards per catch with seven touchdowns and has also run for 233 yards and three scores on 20 carries.

### Atlantic Coast Conference

**No. 22 Virginia vs. No. 3 Clemson**

Bryce Perkins, QB, Virginia vs. Isaiah Simmons, LB, Clemson

To be realistic, Perkins won't be making many All-America teams with so many terrific quarterbacks around the country. But he is one of the most dynamic players in the country, carrying the Cavaliers' offense (303 yards per game in total offense, tops in the ACC). Simmons is one of the most versatile defenders in the country, a hybrid who can line up all over the field. He has 14 tackles for loss.

### Big 12

**No. 8 Baylor vs. No. 6 Oklahoma**

Bravvion Roy, DT, Baylor vs. Creed Humphrey, C, Oklahoma

The 333-pound Roy clogs the middle for the Big 12's top defense (4.77 yard per play) and has 10½ tackles for loss. Humphrey might be the best center in the country, helping pave the way for the Sooners' running game, which is No. 1 in the Big 12 at 260 yards per game.

### Big Ten

**No. 10 Wisconsin vs. No. 2 Ohio State**

Chris Orr, LB, Wisconsin vs. J.K. Dobbins, RB, Ohio State

Orr is an active linebacker with 13.5

See WATCH / Page B2

## MLB

## Moustakas, Reds agree to \$64 million, 4-year deal

BY JOE KAY  
AP Sports Writer

CINCINNATI — All-Star infielder Mike Moustakas and the Cincinnati Reds have agreed to a \$64 million, four-year contract, a person familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press, the team's first move to upgrade a lineup that struggled to score.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity Monday because the agreement had not been announced.

For the second consecutive offseason, the active Reds are splurging as they try to shake themselves out of a rut of six straight losing seasons. Their first move involves getting a player from the NL Central-rival Milwaukee Brewers. The 31-year-old Moustakas could fill the Reds' hole at second base that opened when Scooter Gennett got hurt and then was traded last season.

Cincinnati scored the fourth-fewest runs in the NL last season despite one of the league's most hitter-friendly ballparks. Bulking up on offense, stabilizing the outfield and overhauling the bullpen are the Reds' priorities in the offseason.

Moustakas is a first step toward fixing the offense. He hit .254 with 35 homers and 87 RBIs this year, making his third All-Star team. He began the season at second base and moved to third with Travis Shaw in a slump. Cincinnati has Eugenio Suarez at third base.

The Reds haven't been to the playoffs since 2012, when they won 90 games and lost to the Pirates in the NL wild-card game. Cincinnati then launched into a rebuild, trading away stars for prospects. The team lost at least 94 games annually from 2015-18.

Cincinnati reversed course and decided to try to become competitive again last season by trading for Yasiel Puig, Matt Kemp, Alex Wood, Tanner Roark and Sonny Gray, who became an All-Star. Puig, Kemp and Roark were dealt during the season, along with Gennett. The Reds finally escaped last place, finishing ahead of Pittsburgh with a 75-87 mark, but they wasted a lot of solid pitching along the way.

Moustakas has 42 games of playoff experience with the Royals from 2014-15 and the Brewers the last two seasons.

He rejected a \$17.4 million qualifying offer from Kansas City after the 2017 season but eventually returned to the Royals on a one-year deal. He was traded to the Brewers that July and finished with a .251 batting average, 28 homers and 95 RBIs.

He had a \$7 million salary this year and gets a \$3 million buyout for declining his \$10 million option. He's made \$18.7 million on a pair of one-year deals the last two seasons.

Cincinnati did not offer 2020 contracts to right-hander Kevin Gausman and infielder-outfielder José Peraza. The Reds agreed with outfielder Travis Jankowski on a \$1.05 million, one-year deal, avoiding salary arbitration.

Peraza batted .239 with six homers and 33 RBIs in 141 games. Gausman was 3-9 with a 5.72 ERA in 31 games combined, 17 starts, for Atlanta and Cincinnati.

**SCOREBOARD****HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL**

The Associated Press Top 10 Indiana high school boys basketball teams, with first-place votes in parentheses, records, ratings, points and previous rankings:

	W-L	Pts	Prv
1. Lawrence Central (11)	2-0	270	1
2. Bloomington South (2)	2-0	254	3
3. Lawrence North	2-0	179	4
4. Jeffersonville	1-0	145	8
5. Homestead	1-0	129	7
6. Brownsville (1)	2-0	124	9
7. Warren Central	1-0	108	6
8. Lafayette Jeff	1-0	90	NR
9. Carmel	1-0	69	2
10. Culver Academy	2-0	56	NR

Others receiving votes:  
Zionsville 5, Fishers 4, Floyd Central 42, Indpls Cathedral 24, Ev. Reitz 21, Indpls Ben Davis 17, S. Bend Adams 12, Ft. Wayne Snider 12, Center Grove 9, Munster 7, Indianapolis Attucks 7, Plainfield 6.

	W-L	Pts	Prv
1. Silver Creek (14)	1-0	280	1
2. Indpls Brebeuf	0-0	192	4
3. Heritage Hills	0-0	188	3
4. Princeton	2-0	143	9
5. Greensburg	0-0	136	T6
6. Ev. Bosse	0-0	125	T6
7. Beech Grove	1-0	118	8
8. Mishawaka Marian	0-0	109	5
9. Danville	2-0	72	NR
10. Greencastle	1-0	54	NR

Others receiving votes:  
Delta 50, S. Bend St. Joseph's 49, N. Harrison 31, W. Lafayette 24, Bellmont 20, Connerville 19, Evansville Memorial 13, Griffith 12, Hammond 12, Sullivan 10, Northwestern 9, Norwell 8, Jimtown 6.

	W-L	Pts	Prv
1. Linton-Stockton (8)	1-0	250	2
2. Shenandoah (1)	2-0	238	3
3. Westview (1)	1-0	224	4
4. Ft. Wayne Blackhawk (3)	0-0	212	5
5. Indpls Park Tudor (1)	1-0	151	9
6. Andrean	0-2	75	7
7. Frankton	1-1	64	6
8. Southwestern (Jefferson)	2-1	63	8
9. Prairie Hts.	2-0	62	NR
10. Blackford	2-0	61	NR

Others receiving votes:  
Tippecanoe 44, LaVille 39, Lapel 36, Southridge 30, Paoli 28, S. Decatur 18, N. Posey 14, University 14, Indpls Howe 12, Churubusco 12, Indpls Covenant Christian 10, Providence 10, Ev. Mater Dei 7, Tell City 6.

	W-L	Pts	Prv
1. Gary 21st Century (8)	2-0	262	1
2. Barr-Reeve (5)	1-0	252	4
3. Bloomfield	1-0	201	3
4. Lafayette Catholic (1)	1-0	190	5
5. Kouts	2-0	160	8
6. Greenwood Christian	1-0	136	9
7. Morristown	1-0	129	7
8. Logoootee	3-0	100	NR
9. Argos	0-1	49	2
10. Ev. Day	2-0	46	NR

Others receiving votes:  
Indpls Metro 36, Covenant Christian (DeMotte) 34, Oldenburg 26, Christian Academy 26, Lanesville 18, Covington 9, Washington Twp. 6.

	W-L	Pts	Prv
1. LSU (40)	12-0	1528	7
2. Ohio St. (19)	12-0	1498	2
3. Clemson (3)	12-0	1437	4
4. Georgia	11-1	1356	4
5. Utah	11-1	1275	6
6. Oklahoma	11-1	1257	7
7. Florida	10-2	1135	8
8. Baylor	11-1	1074	11
9. Alabama	10-2	995	5
10. Wisconsin	10-2	971	13
11. Auburn	9-3	957	16
12. Penn St.	10-2	890	12
13. Oregon	10-2	799	14
14. Notre Dame	10-2	734	15
15. Minnesota	10-2	683	9
16. Memphis	11-1	615	17
17. Michigan	9-3	603	10
18. Iowa	9-3	537	19
19. Boise St.	11-1	463	20
20. Appalachian St.	11-1	288	22
21. Cincinnati	10-2	237	18
22. Virginia	9-3	231	NR
23. Navy	9-2	216	24
24. Southern Cal	8-4	157	25
25. Air Force	10-2	65	NR

Others receiving votes: SMU 50, Oklahoma St. 36, Kansas St. 36, UCF 6, Virginia Tech 6, Iowa St. 5, Arizona St. 4, California 3, Washington 2, North Dakota St. 1.

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12. Penn			

## GOLF

# Masters field starting to rise with new winners

**BY DOUG FERGUSON**  
AP Golf Writer

NASSAU, Bahamas — Seven tournaments from the six largest tours over the next three weeks could shape the field for the Masters, and perhaps pave the way for the largest gathering at Augusta National in more than 50 years.

Augusta National invites the top 50 from the final world ranking of the year, and then the top 50 one week before the Masters.

Among those on the bubble are former PGA champion Keegan Bradley, hanging on at No. 48, and Presidents Cup player Cameron Smith at No. 52. The Australian gets two more tries to get into the top 50.

The Masters already has 77 players who have qualified and are expected to play. From this week's world ranking, 12 players in the top 50 are not yet eligible, meaning the size of the field could swell to 89 players going into the new year. Still to come are 12 events on the PGA Tour that offer Masters invitations to the winner, along with the top 50 from the April 5 world ranking and the Latin American Amateur champion.

Tiger Woods won against a field of 87 players this year for his fifth green jacket.

The Masters is all about providing the best experience for the players, one reason it has the smallest field of the four majors. It

has not had more than 100 players since 103 played in 1966.

Why the increase? Some of it has to do with the increased fall schedule on the PGA Tour.

A year ago, seven tournaments offered full FedEx Cup points, three of them limited fields in Asia. Only two of those seven winners were outside the top 50 in the world — Kevin Tway at the Safeway Open and Charles Howell III at the RSM Classic.

This year, the PGA Tour had 10 tournaments in the fall that offered a Masters invitation. Six of the winners were outside the top 50. Five of them were not among the top 150 in the world.

The tour had two new tournaments in the summer (between the last two majors), won by Nate Lashley in Detroit and Matthew Wolff in Minnesota. With one fewer event in the FedEx Cup postseason, 11 players who reached the Tour Championship — which comes with a Masters invitation — did not win. Five of them would have made the Masters field through other categories.

The Masters had a strong emphasis on amateurs in 1966, awarding invitations to the U.S. Amateur and British Amateur champions from the previous 10 years, the top eight and ties from the last U.S. Amateur and the U.S. Walker Cup team.

That meant 26 amateurs were in the field. Now there are six.

## MICKELSON IN A DIFFERENT DESERT

Phil Mickelson has reached a stage in his career when he does what he wants with less regard to how it's perceived.

One year after he skipped his hometown event at Torrey Pines after 28 consecutive years, Mickelson has signed up to play the Saudi International in late January. That means he will miss the Phoenix Open after 29 straight years, a tournament he won three times in a city where he graduated college at Arizona State.

Dustin Johnson, who won the Saudi International last year, was among several players criticized for supporting a European Tour event in a country under heavy scrutiny for its human rights records, including the killing of journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

Mickelson will be joining Johnson, Brooks Koepka, Tony Finau and Patrick Reed, along with European stars Henrik Stenson, Shane Lowry and Sergio Garcia.

"I watched Dustin win the title last year and thought the course looked like an interesting challenge," Mickelson said in a statement. "Having so many talented players on show also made it look like a much more es-

tablished tournament than one in its inaugural year."

He then mentioned the opportunity to "grow the game," a popular phrase for new markets.

More telling was an exchange on Twitter when a follower criticized him by saying he was "better than taking the money grab from a corrupt regime."

"After turning down opportunities to go to the Middle East for many years, I'm excited to go play and see a place in the world I've never been. I understand those who are upset or disappointed. You'll be ok. I'm excited to experience this for the first time," Mickelson replied.

Mickelson played in Abu Dhabi in 2011 and 2014, both times returning home to play Torrey and Phoenix the following weeks.

## EYE ON GOLF

Former Masters champion Trevor Immelman and Michelle Wie are among additions to the CBS Sports golf team.

The network announced several moves Tuesday as it prepares for a season that starts at Torrey Pines the third week in January.

Frank Nobilo is taking an expanded role to become a full analyst for CBS, joining Dottie Pepper, Ian Baker-Finch, Davis Love III and Mark Immelman, who also is increasing his role at the network. Pepper, who

joined CBS in 2015, has been elevated to the lead on-course reporter.

Jim Nantz and Nick Faldo return in the tower, with Andrew Catalon returning as host of PGA Tour events that Nantz doesn't work, along with other duties. Amanda Balionis returns in her role doing interviews.

The network recently decided not to renew the contracts of Peter Kostis and Gary McCord.

For Wie, it's another indication that her injury-plagued career on the LPGA Tour is winding down. Wie, who married Golden State Warriors executive Jonnie West this year, will contribute to cable and digital platforms for CBS, including at the Masters. Wie made her television debut as a studio analyst during the Solheim Cup in September.

## THOMAS SCARE

Justin Thomas playing a practice round in the warmth of the Bahamas revealed a scare — illustrated by a 3-inch scar just below the back of his knee — after the Tour Championship.

A visit to his dermatologist revealed melanoma that was removed.

"He said I was about eight months away from being one of his patients," Thomas said.

Thomas, who already makes regular visits to the dermatologist, says he was told to get checked once every three months for the

next year.

## DIVOTS

Jon Rahm has been voted European Tour golfer of the year by a panel of golf media. Rahm won three times on the European Tour, including the DP World Tour Championship to win the Race to Dubai and become the first Spaniard since Seve Ballesteros to end the year as Europe Tour's top play. ... Graeme McDowell will be host of the Dubai Duty Free Irish Open the next two years, starting at Mount Juliet in May.

McDowell says he hopes the 2021 event can move to Northern Ireland. Mount Juliet was site of a World Golf Championship in 2002 and 2004. ... Players at the Hero World Challenge are donating \$500 for every birdie, \$1,000 for every eagle and \$2,500 for a hole-in-one to the ONE Bahamas Fund to help with rebuilding from Hurricane Dorian. Net proceeds from the event are going to the Bahamas Fund and the TGR Foundation.

## STAT OF THE WEEK

Ariya Jutanugarn, who began the year at No. 1 in the world, finished the LPGA season outside the top 10.

## FINAL WORD

"I know that he does not want to go down there and not come back without the cup." — Rickie Fowler on Tiger Woods as U.S. captain of the Presidents Cup.

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL

### Washington's Petersen resigns, says being a head coach can be 'very heavy'

SEATTLE (AP) — Chris Petersen says he was ready for a break after 40 years of being involved with football.

Petersen spoke Tuesday about his surprising decision to resign as Washington's coach after six seasons with the Huskies. The 55-year-old Petersen has been a head coach for 14 seasons at Boise State and Washington. He's been involved with coaching for more than 30 years overall after his playing career ended.

Petersen said he remembered watching film at home with his dad, who was a small-college coach in California, and that over the years being a head coach can "become very heavy."

"It becomes a lot of frustration and anxiety and stress. And some of the excitement and positivity and optimism can be pushed away, and that's never a way to lead your life," Petersen said.

Washington promoted Jimmy Lake from defensive coordinator to take over for Petersen. Lake will take reins of the program following Washington's bowl game, which will be Petersen's last game in charge.

"I'm not going to lie, this is emotional," Washington athletic director Jen Cohen said.

## COLLEGE BASKETBALL

### Undersized Marquette star Markus Howard finding ways to dominate

**BY FRED GOODALL**  
AP Sports Writer

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. — Markus Howard continues to find ways to dominate basketball games despite his undersized stature.

The 5-foot-11 Marquette pre-season All-American and reigning Big East player of the year leads the nation in scoring at 26 points a game.

"We need Markus to be the player and the star he is. It makes everyone better," said Golden Eagles coach Steve Wojciechowski. "He gives us a swagger. He gives us a confidence when he's doing his thing."

He did his thing at Orlando Invitational.

Howard scored 91 points on the first two days of the tournament, making a dazzling array of step-back 3-pointers and seemingly blowing past befuddled defenders at will when he chose to drive to the basket for a closer look.

He led Marquette to the championship game, where Howard and the Golden Eagles were derailed by third-ranked Maryland. But during their run, Howard became the first Big East player to ever have back-to-back 40-point games, including a 51-point outburst against Southern California

in the semifinals.

"Just another incredible performance," said Wojciechowski, who watched the senior from Chandler, Arizona go for 40 the previous night against Davidson.

Howard was the last player to leave the court after his impressive outing, pausing to pose for pictures before cheerfully plowing through a pack of young Golden Eagles fans chanting his name.

It was the third 50-point game of Howard's career. He also joined Mississippi's Johnny Neumann and LSU's Pete Maravich and Bob Pettit as the only players in a major conference to score at least 40 on consecutive days.

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Howard scored 91 points on the first two days of the tournament, making a dazzling array of step-back 3-pointers and seemingly blowing past befuddled defenders at will when he chose to drive to the basket for a closer look.

A second-team All-American last season when he led Marquette to the NCAA Tournament, Howard enters Wednesday night's home game against Jacksonville as the nation's top scorer at 26 per game. He was averaging 29.3 before Maryland overwhelmed the Golden Eagles 84-63 in the

Orlando Invitational final, limiting Howard to six points on 1 for 12 shooting, including 0 of 6 on 3-point attempts.

The Terrapins made a concerted effort to keep the ball out of Howard's hands, a task 6-foot-5 Darryl Morsell took to heart.

And when Maryland's best defender wasn't blanketing the Marquette star, 6-foot-6 Aaron Wiggins made things just as difficult for Howard.

"Our goal was just to make it tough," Morsell said. "Contest every shot, just try to get physical."

It wasn't anything out of the ordinary for Howard.

Wojciechowski noted Howard has faced nearly every type of defense imaginable during his career. He's been held to single digits seven times over the past two-plus seasons, but he's always bounced back.

"The fact people defend Markus hard is not new. He's Big East player of the year. He's an All-American last year," the coach said. "Teams have gone out to stop him. We have to learn, re-learn with this group, how to figure that out."

Howard has 51 career games of 20-plus points, 20 with 30 or more and six of at least 40. He has no intentions of slowing down as he approaches another milestone he'll share with his brother, Jordan, who played at Central Arkansas from 2015-18 and was Southland Conference player of the year as a senior.

As a duo, the Howards have scored 4,661 points. The only other combo of brothers that's scored more is Seth and Stephen Curry, who finished their NCAA careers with 4,736.

"My teammates give me supreme confidence. If they tell me to keep going, I'm going to keep going. I'm never going to stop. That's kind of the mentality I've had as a scorer," Howard said. "No matter what's being thrown at me, I'm going to continue to come at you. Just continue to be aggressive and play with a chip on my shoulder."

Turns out, what's good for Howard is also good for the Golden Eagles, who feed off his energy.

"I think if I don't show that it definitely changes our team a lot," Howard said. "When I play with a certain swagger and confidence, different guys are able to play with that same kind of edge. I think it's good for our whole team because the best comes out of our team when everybody's playing that way."

## NFL

### McManus furious he didn't get shot at record field goal

**BY ARNIE STAPLETON**  
AP Pro Football Writer

DENVER — Brandon McManus looked up and saw the bright orange streamers atop the goal posts hugging the yellow uprights in the north end zone. Perfect, he thought. No wind. Thirty degrees. One second before halftime.

This was the moment he'd waited for, a shot at history.

As he mapped out his steps for the 65-yard field goal attempt and a chance to break former teammate Matt Prater's NFL record of 64 yards set six years earlier, he heard hollering from his sideline.

Coach Vic Fangio had changed his mind.

McManus was being summoned off the field.

Furious, McManus stormed back to the bench, ripping off his helmet as he reached the sideline and throwing it on the ground, not usually something a kicker does when his head coach makes a call he doesn't like.

The offense went back out

and when Denver was whistled for a delay, backing the Broncos to their own 48, a Hail Mary by rookie quarterback Drew Lock was no longer going to happen. Instead, he threw a 33-yard pass over the middle to Courtland Sutton, who was tackled at the 20.

When McManus returned

to the field just before the start

of the second half, he lined up

at his 45-yard line and nailed

a practice 65-yarder just like

he knew he would have had

Fangio not folded 10 minutes

earlier when Chargers return

man Desmond King II lined

up deep in case McManus'

kick was short.

"I knew I could make it,

they've seen me make it in

practice and we're right at the

line that I gave him," said McManus, who was good from 31, 52 and 53 yards Sunday, his last one clearing the uprights with no time left for a 23-20 Denver win.

Fangio said he decided

against the 65-yard attempt

because "at that point I didn't

think it was desperation."

Besides, he said, "I've seen

many times where guys go out

there and try extra-long kicks.

They alter the mechanics and

it affects him the rest of the

game. I'm going to say that

that decision not to let him go

out there for the 65-yarder led

him to making the 52 and the

53-yarder."

McManus scoffed at the notion

his extra oomph he would

have had to use to clear the

crossbar from that distance

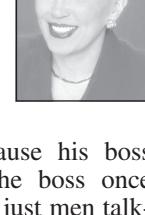
would have affected subsequent

# Boss shrugs off concerns about raunchy talk at work

**DEAR ABBY:** My husband works with a group of men who often become vulgar in their conversations. My husband was raised to have respect and dignity, so he is uncomfortable with it.

The men discuss their wives and girlfriends in explicit detail. Some of them have daughters. It is just insane! Would they want some one talking about their daughters like that?!

**Dear Abby**



My husband tries to ignore it or change the subject. Although he gets stressed about it, he can't go to the boss because his boss chimes in. The boss once said, "Oh, it's just men talking." My husband finds the whole thing disrespectful. He could go to Human Resources, but he's not sure he should. What should he do? – Uncomfortable In Wyoming

**DEAR UNCOMFORTABLE:** Your husband should not have to be subjected to conversations in the workplace that make him uncomfortable. He should have spoken up when it first happened. And he should still make his feelings known and bow out of these interactions. If HR in that company is strong enough to institute some rules that will be respected, he should alert someone there to the uncomfortable work environment in his department.

**DEAR ABBY:** I'm a widow of two years who is taking my first steps getting back out there into the dating world. The dating sites scare me for lots of reasons. My biggest concern is the sexual part of dating. How do you know if the person is healthy? Do you ask if they have been tested lately, or ever? Should I have to ask if they have protection?

I'm way past getting pregnant, but I don't want any surprises either. I do plan on getting to know the man before I get to the romantic part, but would like to know how to address my concerns. – Ready To Move Forward

**DEAR READY:** You are a wise lady. According to the Centers for Disease Control, STDs like herpes, gonorrhea, hepatitis B and trichomoniasis are spreading like wildfire. In 2017, nearly 2.3 million cases of chlamydia, gonorrhea and syphilis were reported in the United States. You should also be aware that 1 in 6 new cases of HIV diagnosed were among people over the age of 50.

This is why, before getting to the "romantic part," it is imperative you have a frank, honest, open discussion about sexually transmitted diseases and to refrain from having unprotected sexual contact unless you and your partner are in an exclusive relationship and you both have been tested, preferably together.

**DEAR ABBY:** This may seem a bit crazy. While out to dinner with friends, I noticed a ring on my girlfriend's finger. My husband and I had traveled with them in Portugal last year. About the same time, I lost a ring that closely resembled the one my friend was wearing. What's the best way to ask her where she got it without sounding accusatory? The ring is unique, and I think it is mine. I look forward to your advice on handling this. – Lost Ring Up North

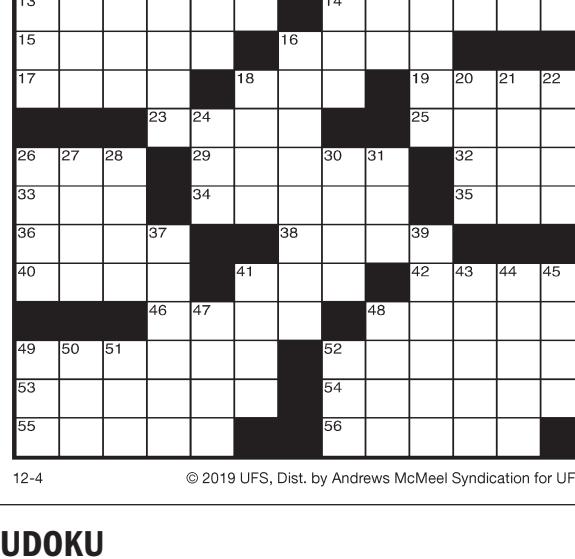
**DEAR LOST RING:** Ask your friend if she "found" that lovely ring because it is similar to one you lost during that trip to Portugal. If she denies it, drop the subject unless you prefer to drop the friend.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

## CROSSWORD

**ACROSS**

- 1 Disconcerts 41 Capt.'s heading
- 6 Pallid 42 Metallic element
- 11 Swiss lake 46 Stuffed shirt
- 12 Dome 48 Timex competitor
- 13 Loves 49 Worker with acid
- 14 Sibyl, for one 52 Ruminated
- 15 Henry VIII's house 53 Setting
- 16 Fill with cargo 54 Parthenon site
- 17 Pentathlon event 55 Prickly
- 18 Vegas lead-in 56 Pester in fun
- 19 Tar's patron saint 20 Disgusted (2 wds.)
- 23 Hang around 21 Battery post
- 25-ex machina 22 Nulls
- 26 Tiny speck 23 Happily — after
- 29 One-celled swimmer (Var.) 5 Stockholm carrier
- 32 Goose egg 6 Atmosphere
- 33 Vanity 7 Worked in the garden
- 34 Hazard 8 This, to Caesar
- 35 Old B'way posting 9 Annex
- 36 Jason's ship 10 Lassie's refusal
- 38 Brainstorm 11 Turnstile



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Answer to Previous Puzzle

S	P	Y	B	A	H	G	A	L	L
P	I	E	A	C	M	O	B	I	E
U	T	A	K	O	O	L	P	O	L
R	A	S	H	E	R	A	T	H	E
N	U	B	Y	O	I	R	I	G	
O	L	E	S	P	O	C	O	G	
D	N	A	E	S	P	B	O	N	
A	R	R	Y	S	A	B	N	E	
A	R	C	I	L					
T	R	E	S	H					

SPY BAH GALL  
PIE ACME OBIE  
UTA KOOL PLOT  
RASHER ATHENS  
URN TEE  
NUBBY OILRIG  
OLES POOL COG  
DNA ESPN BONA  
ARRAYS BANES  
ARC ILL  
FETISH VOICES  
EMUS IRON ANT  
LINE CORD AYE  
TRES BYE NAP

## BEETLE BAILEY



I HAVE AN APPOINTMENT TO SEE THE GENERAL

HE'S BUSY AT THE MOMENT



HERE'S A PILLOW AND A BLANKET. HE'LL BE WITH YOU SHORTLY

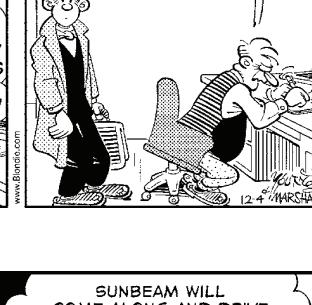
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www.wmawalkersketches.com

## BLONDIE



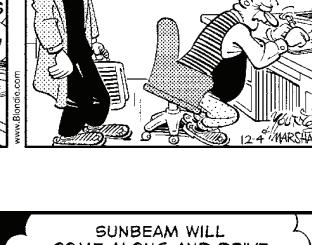
WORKING LATE AGAIN, BOSS?

I CERTAINLY AM, BUMSTEAD



NONSENSE, BUMSTEAD! RUNNING MY BUSINESS IS MY JOB!

WORKING LATE IS MY HOBBY!



## HI & LOIS



IT LOOKS LIKE A STORM IS COMING, BUT I'M NOT WORRIED...



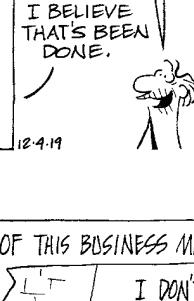
SUNBEAM WILL COME ALONG AND DRIVE THE RAIN AND CLOUDS AWAY.

## BC



I'M THINKING OF STARTING MY OWN COMIC STRIP.

ATTABOY!



INSTEAD OF A BOX, I'LL BORDER IT IN CIRCLES.

I BELIEVE THAT'S BEEN DONE.



BY WHO?

HE'S DOWN IN ONE OF THE CORNERS THERE.

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## WIZARD OF ID

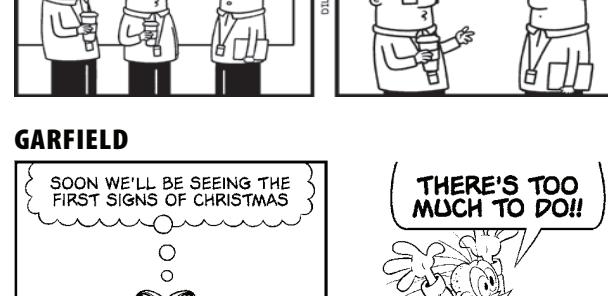


SO, WHAT'S THE PURPOSE OF THIS BUSINESS MEETING?

I DON'T FEEL LIKE WORKING FOR A COUPLE OF HOURS. FIGURED Y'ALL WERE ON THE SAME PAGE

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## DILBERT



DID YOU SEE MY PROJECT UPDATE?

NO.

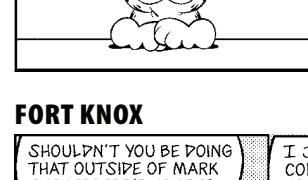


WHAT HAPPENS WHEN HE REALIZES IT ISN'T THERE?

THAT'S WHEN I TELL HIM TO CHECK HIS CLUTTERED EMAIL.

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## GARFIELD



SOON WE'LL BE SEEING THE FIRST SIGNS OF CHRISTMAS



THERE'S TOO MUCH TO DO!!



THERE GOES ONE NOW!

JIM DAVIS 12-4

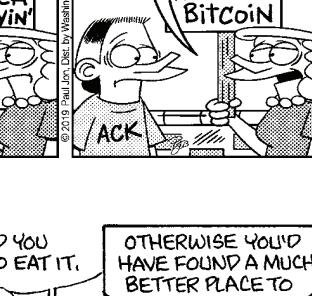
## FORT KNOX



SHOULDN'T YOU BE DOING THAT OUTSIDE OF MARK ZUCKERBERG'S HOUSE?



I JUST NEED TO COLLECT MONEY FOR MY FLIGHT THE OLD-FASHIONED WAY.

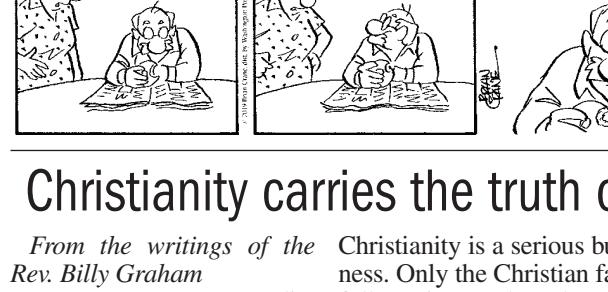


BY GOING POOR TO POOR?

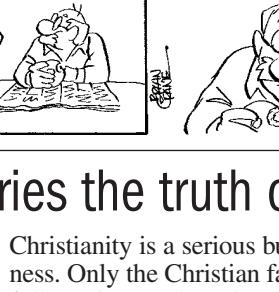
CAMBRIDGE ANALYTICA AIN'T LYIN'

NOW ACCEPTING BITCOIN

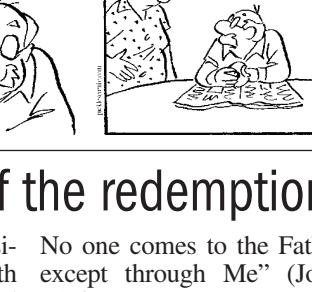
## PICKLES



EARL, ARE YOU EATING MY BAGEL I WAS SAVING FOR LATER?



IS THAT WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE?



I ASSUMED YOU WANTED ME TO EAT IT.

WANTED YOU TO EAT IT?

OTHERWISE YOU'D HAVE FOUND A MUCH BETTER PLACE TO HIDE IT.

## JUMBLE



© 2019 Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication for UFS

### DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

9 6 3 1 7 2 8 4 5  
8 2 5 4 9 3 7 1 6  
1 4 7 6 8 5 2 9 3  
7 8 2 5 3 4 9 6 1  
5 9 6 8 1 7 4 3 2  
4 3 1 2 6 9 5 8 7  
3 7 8 9 5 6 1 2 4  
6 1 4 7 2 8 3 5 9  
2 5 9 3 4 1 6 7 8

How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

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NAAGI  
HNWIC  
RILED  
TRWHAT

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: GLORY INEPT RELENT BORDER

Answer: The folklore characters wanted to cross the river but didn't want to use the "TROLL" BRIDGE

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

REGARDING THE INVENTION OF LATEX SURGICAL GLOVES IN 1894, WILLIAM HALSTEAD ---

This will keep things sterile. Golly! And you can still use your fingers!

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NAAGI

## More pressure on Prince Andrew after alleged victim on TV

BY GREGORY KATZ

Associated Press

LONDON — Prince Andrew was missing when his mother, Queen Elizabeth II, hosted NATO leaders at Buckingham Palace on Tuesday evening, but he was the focus of renewed scrutiny as allegations of sexual misconduct received wide attention on British TV.

Andrew, who has stepped down from royal duties because of his involvement with sex offender Jeffrey Epstein, was the subject of a BBC documentary broadcast Monday night in which he was accused of having sex with a 17-year-old American trafficked by Epstein.

President Donald Trump declined to offer an opinion when asked about the case earlier Tuesday, saying only that he didn't know Andrew but that it was a "very tough story." However, the alleged victim's father did weigh in, telling the ITV network he believes his daughter Virginia Roberts Giuffre's account is factual.

"I feel really sorry that all this happened. But it did happen, and Prince Andrew should pay for it," Sky Roberts said, adding that his daughter is "really brave to be going through all this and to come up against these powerful people."

The royal scandal, closely linked to the Epstein affair, was deepening as Trump and other dignitaries gathered in the splendor of Buckingham Palace to have drinks with the queen ahead of a NATO summit Wednesday. Andrew was not among those invited.

Giuffre, now 35, told the BBC in vivid detail how she was forced to have sex with Andrew in London in 2001 after a night on the town at the exclusive Tramp nightclub. She said she had been recruited into Epstein's sex-trafficking network earlier when she was working as a locker room attendant at Trump's Mar-a-Lago club.

"This is not some sordid sex story. This is a story of being trafficked, this is a story of abuse and this is a story of your guys' royalty," Giuffre said, imploring the British public to back her in her quest for justice.

She says Andrew knows what happened and should accept responsibility.

Andrew has denied having sex with Giuffre and says he doesn't have any recollection of meeting her despite a photo that appears to show him with his arm around her waist.

Andrew, 59, has apologized for his association with Epstein, who died in prison in August in what New York City officials ruled was a suicide. He was facing sex-trafficking charges after earlier serving time for other sex offenses.

The disgraced prince says he is willing to cooperate with appropriate law enforcement inquiries if required to do so. He also faces possible subpoenas from women who are suing Epstein's estate who believe Andrew may have valuable testimony about abuse they suffered.

The scandal is one of the worst to grip the royal household in recent decades and has severely tarnished the reputation of Andrew, one of Queen Elizabeth II's four children.

U.S. law enforcement agencies have not commented publicly on whether Andrew is being investigated for any possible wrongdoing. Many of the court papers related to the Epstein case are still sealed and unavailable to the public, so many details have not yet emerged.

British legal experts, meanwhile, are divided over whether Andrew enjoys immunity from prosecution as a senior British royal and the matter has not been tested in court.

Giuffre complained to British police in 2015, alleging that she was trafficked into England by Epstein to have sex with Andrew, but police did not launch a full-scale investigation.

Police Commander Alex Murray said last week that the force decided it was not the proper agency to prosecute possible trafficking in this case.

"Following the legal advice, it was clear that any investigation into human trafficking would be largely focused on activities and relationships outside the UK," he said. "We therefore concluded that the MPS (Metropolitan Police Service) was not the appropriate authority to conduct inquiries in these circumstances."

He did say police have "liaised with other law enforcement organizations" but have not received a formal request for assistance in connection with the allegation.

That statement suggests British police may have discussed the case with U.S. law enforcement officials but have not received a legal request seeking to interview Andrew under oath.

Andrew could face possible subpoenas related to civil lawsuits if he goes to the United States, although it might be difficult to serve the papers on a royal who travels with protection officers. Lawyers could also seek to have him deposed in Britain.

Andrew tried to contain the damage by giving a televised interview on the topic in November. But it backfired because he did not express concern for Epstein's victims and defended his friendship with Epstein, a wealthy financier, as "honorable."

The documentary broadcast Monday night painted a detailed portrait of how Epstein abused dozens of young women at his luxury properties in the Caribbean and New York and quoted Giuffre's account of being ordered to have sex with Andrew on three occasions.

Giuffre described how she says she was recruited by Epstein's then girlfriend, Ghislaine Maxwell, to give Epstein massages and later taken to London to meet Andrew.

Breaking down in tears, Giuffre described the humiliating aftermath of being made to have sex with Andrew at a townhouse in London after a night out at the exclusive Tramp nightclub. She said she was told to dance with him by Maxwell.

"It was horrible and this guy was sweating all over me," she said. "His sweat was like it was raining basically everywhere. I was just like grossed out from it, but I knew I had to keep him happy because that's what Jeffrey and Ghislaine would have expected from me."

She said that Maxwell told her she would have to do for Andrew what she had done for Epstein, meaning she would have to have sex with the prince. Maxwell has denied any wrongdoing.

"There was a bath," she said. "It started there, then went into the bedroom. It didn't last very long, the whole procedure. It was disgusting."

"He got up and he said 'Thanks,'" she added. "I sat there in bed, just horrified and ashamed and felt dirty."

Giuffre said she felt trapped. "It was a wicked time in my life. It was a really scary time in my life. I had just been abused by a member of the royal family," she said. "Yeah, I didn't have chains, but these powerful people were my chains."

Giuffre admitted that her memory was foggy at times and that she might have some dates and places wrong but insisted she was certain of the key facts.

## Greta Thunberg says voyage 'energized' her climate fight

BY BARRY HATTON

and FRANK JORDANS

Associated Press

LISBON, Portugal — Climate activist Greta Thunberg arrived in Portugal on Tuesday after a three-week voyage across the Atlantic Ocean, telling cheering supporters that the journey had "energized" her for the fight against climate change.

The Swedish teen, whose one-woman protests outside the Swedish parliament helped inspire a global youth movement, sailed into the port of Lisbon after making a last-minute dash back from the United States to attend this year's U.N. climate conference.

Thunberg has been steadfast in her refusal to fly because of the amount of greenhouse gases emitted by planes, a stance that put her planned appearance at the meeting in doubt when the venue was moved from Chile to Spain a month ago.

"We've all been on quite an adventure," Thunberg told reporters shortly after stepping off the catamaran La Vagabonde, on which she'd hitched a ride back home to Europe. "It feels good to be back."

Thunberg's appearances at past climate meetings have won her plaudits from some leaders — and criticism from others who've taken offense at the angry tone of her speeches.

"I think people are underestimating the force of angry kids," Thunberg said. "If they want us to stop being angry, then maybe they

should stop making us angry."

The 16-year-old said she planned to spend several days in the Portuguese capital before heading to Madrid, where delegates from nearly 200 countries are discussing how to tackle global warming.

"We will continue the fight there to make sure that within those walls the voices of the people are being heard," she said.

The white 48-foot yacht carrying Thunberg, her father Svante, an Australian family and professional sailor or Nikki Henderson sailed into Lisbon amid blue skies, with a small flotilla of boats escorting it to harbor.

Her trip contrasted with the many air miles flown by most of the U.N. meeting's 25,000 attendees.

Thunberg wanted a low-carbon form of transport to get to the climate meeting, which was switched at short notice to Spain from Chile due to unrest there.

The yacht leaves little or no carbon footprint when its sails are up, using solar panels and hydro-generators for electricity.

"I am not traveling like this because I want everyone to do so," said Thunberg. "I'm doing this to sort of send the message that it is impossible to live sustainable today, and that needs to change. It needs to become much easier."

She said bringing her critical message to political leaders can feel awkward. "I feel strange when I get applaud-

ed by people in power ... because it's obvious that it's them I'm criticizing but they can't show that in front of the cameras," she said. "It's quite funny sometimes."

Looking ahead to next year's presidential election in the United States, Thunberg said: "I just hope that someone wins that can think on the long term, not just the short term."

Chile's Environment Minister Carolina Schmidt, saluted Thunberg's role speaking out about the threat of climate change.

"She has been a leader that has been able to move and open hearts for many young people and many people all over the world," Schmidt told The Associated Press at the summit in Madrid.

"We need that tremendous force in order to increase climate action," she said.

Near to the conference, some 20 activists cut off traffic in central Madrid and staged a brief theatrical performance to protest climate change.

Members of the international group called Extinction Rebellion held up a banner in Russian that read: "Climate Crisis. To speak the truth. To take action immediately."

Some activists jumped into a nearby fountain while others threw them life jackets. They chanted: "What Do We Want? Climate Justice."

Others dressed in red robes with their faces whitened to symbolize the human species' peril danced briefly before police moved in to end

the protest.

Meanwhile, the U.N. weather agency released a new report showing that the current decade is likely to set a new 10-year temperature record, providing mounting evidence that the world is getting ever hotter.

Preliminary temperature measurements show the years from 2015 to 2019 and from 2010 to 2019 "are, respectively, almost certain to be the warmest five-year period and decade on record," the World Meteorological Organization said.

"Since the 1980s, each successive decade has been warmer than the last," the agency said.

While full-year figures aren't released until next March, 2019 is also expected to be the second or third warmest year since measurements began, with 2016 still holding the all-time temperature record, it said.

This year was hotter than average in most parts of the world, including the Arctic. "In contrast a large area of North America has been colder than the recent average," the U.N. said.

The World Meteorological Organization's annual report, which brings together data from numerous national weather agencies and research organizations, also highlighted the impacts of climate change including declining sea ice and rising sea levels, which reached their highest level this year since high-precision measurements began in 1993.

## NATO chief seeks to shore up unity

BY LORNE COOK

Associated Press

LONDON — With questions raised over NATO's credibility, the Western military alliance struggled to present a united front Tuesday as some of its biggest member countries traded barbs over their visions for the future.

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg sought to shore up unity as leaders from across the 29-member trans-Atlantic alliance gathered in London to mark its 70th anniversary and to show that it is adapting to modern threats.

"NATO is the most successful alliance in history because we have been able to change when the world is changing," Stoltenberg said after talks with U.S. President Donald Trump.

"That is exactly what we are doing again," he said.

Though NATO has thousands of troops deployed in the Baltics and Poland to dissuade Russia from any military forays like those it launched in Ukraine and Georgia in the recent past, the strength of that military deterrent has been undermined by recent bickering among some leaders.

Stoltenberg won support from Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, who said "the future for this alliance is

bright."

"We've adjusted and adapted and stayed true to the original values that brought us together," Trudeau said.

He added that NATO's longevity since it was first established in 1949 to provide collective security for Europe against what was then the Soviet Union was down to the fact that "we've always had frank, real conversations."

Macron wants NATO to focus on strategic questions like who its enemies really are and how to improve ties with Russia rather than dither over defense spending.

Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte acknowledged that the French leader is right, but only to a point.

Referring to the challenges posed by Russia, or an emerging China, or even the need for Europe to play a bigger security role, Rutte said "these all require a fundamental rethink without losing the cornerstones of NATO."

But on the need for bigger military budgets — a favorite whip Trump uses to lash European allies and Canada — Rutte said: "We cannot have the U.S. shoulder all the burden."

The United States spends more on defense than all the other allies combined. No country owes Washington money, but NATO allies rely on U.S. transport and air support to conduct military operations.

After Russia annexed the Crimean Peninsula in 2014, NATO countries halted their post-Cold War spending cuts and began increasing spending. They pledged to "move toward" spending 2% of their annual GDP on national defense by 2024.

Trump said much more needs to be done.

"You could make the case that they've been delinquent for 25-30 years," Trump said. The figure of 2%, he added, "is a very low number, it really should be 4."

Ian Lesser, Vice President of The German Marshall Fund of the United States think-tank, said the credibility of NATO's collective defense clause — known as Article 5 — must be discussed.

"It's sort of at the center of the debate," Lesser said. "No one wants to talk too much about it because they fear it will somehow erode the credibility or the reliance on it, but NATO is going to have to have that debate."

## France to retaliate if U.S. doubles cheese prices

BY ANGELA CHARLTON

and JOHN LEICESTER

Associated Press

PARIS — France is bristling at a U.S. threat to slap 100 percent tariffs on French cheeses, Champagne and other products, with the French leader telling President Donald Trump on Tuesday that the move would amount to an attack on all of Europe.

The U.S. Trade Representative proposed the tariffs on \$2.4 billion in goods Monday in retaliation for a French tax on global tech giants including Google, Amazon and Facebook.

France's reaction was swift and robust, with President Emmanuel Macron and his finance minister both warning of a European riposte if the U.S. measure is implemented.

"My first question is what will happen with the United Kingdom, which adopted the same tax? For Italy, the same tax? Austria, Spain ...," Macron asked. "If we're serious, those countries will have to be treated the same way."

The U.S. move is likely to increase trade tensions between the U.S. and Europe.

summit in London. "Because, in effect, it wouldn't be France that is being sanctioned or attacked but Europe."

Macron said it's "not fair" that digital revenues are taxed less than real-life revenues. He said France shouldn't be singled out for wanting to correct that imbalance with a tax on tech firms.

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French Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire said the U.S. tariff threat is "simply unacceptable. ... It's not the behavior we expect from the United States toward one of its main allies."

The French tech tax, he said, is aimed at "establishing tax justice." France wants digital companies to pay their fair share of taxes in countries where they make money instead of using tax havens, and is pushing for an international agreement on the issue.

The problem is pronounced in Europe, where a foreign company can pay most of its taxes in the one EU country where it has its regional base — often a small country like Luxembourg or Ireland that tries to attract multinationals with very low corporate taxes.

Le Maire noted that France will reimburse the tax if the U.S. agrees to the international tax plan.

French wine and cheese producers expressed dis-

may about being caught in the middle of the battle over digital revenues. Cheese producers warned the U.S. measure would hit small businesses hardest.

An industry association for pungent Roquefort cheese, among the targeted products, said the 100 percent tariffs could wipe out the U.S. market - 300 tons a year - for the blue-veined cheese.

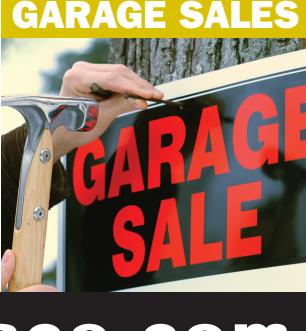
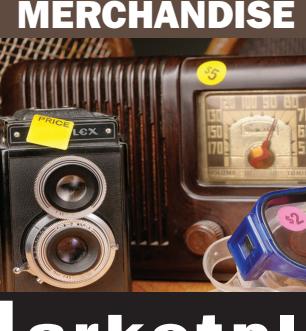
"We're lucky to have a product known around the world but the reverse side of that is that every time there's a trade dispute, Roquefort is systematically targeted," said Jerome Faramond, the association president.

Le Maire said France talked this week with the European Commission about EU-wide retaliatory measures if Washington follows through with the tariffs next month.

EU Commission spokesman Daniel Rosario said the EU will seek "immediate discussions with the U.S. on how to solve this issue amiably."

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through noon on Fri.,

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Responsibilities consist of day-to-day operations of the Commissioners' Office.

Requirements include: previous admin knowledge and HS diploma or

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### Marion Fire

Department will be accepting

applications for the position of Firefighter

starting 11/27/19

and ending 1/16/20.

Applications, minimum requirements and job description can

To apply:

Mail application

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Human Resources, 301 S. Branson St., Marion, IN 46952.

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